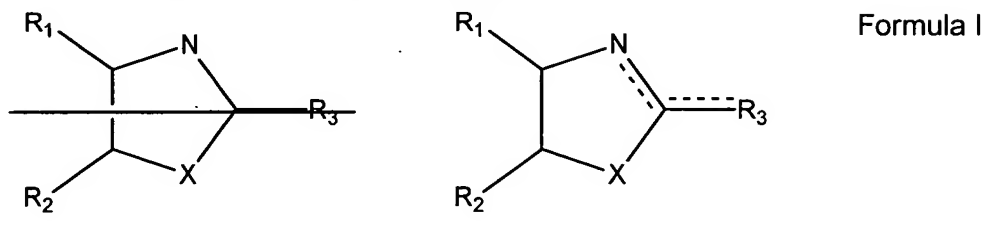


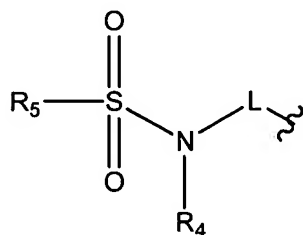
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of Formula I



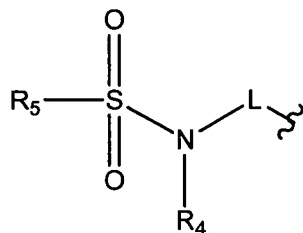
wherein each dotted line optionally represents a double bond;

wherein one of R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> is a group of the formula



wherein R<sub>4</sub> is selected from H and hydrocarbyl, R<sub>5</sub> is a hydrocarbyl group and L is an optional linker group,

or R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> together form a ring substituted with the group



wherein R<sub>3</sub> is H or a substituent

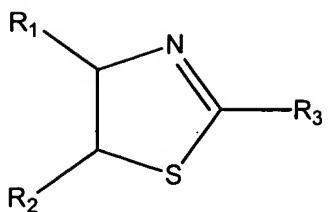
and wherein X is selected from S, O, NR<sub>6</sub> and C(R<sub>7</sub>)(R<sub>8</sub>), wherein R<sub>6</sub> is selected from H and hydrocarbyl groups, wherein each of R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> are independently selected from H and hydrocarbyl groups;

or a salt thereof.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 of Formula II

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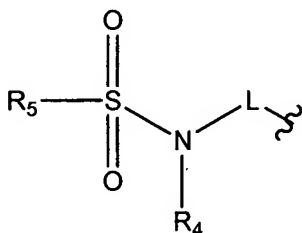
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Formula II

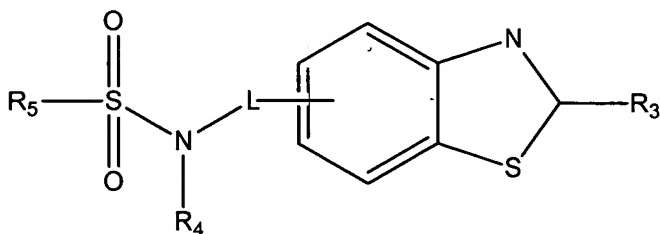
or a salt thereof.

3. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein L is not present.
4. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> together form a ring substituted with the group



5. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> together form a carbocyclic ring.
6. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> together form a six membered ring.
7. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> together form an aryl ring.

8. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 of Formula III



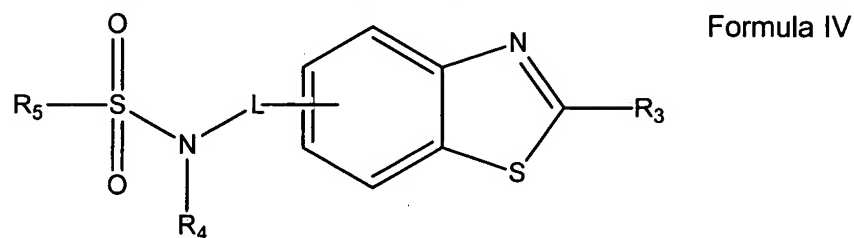
Formula III

or a salt thereof.

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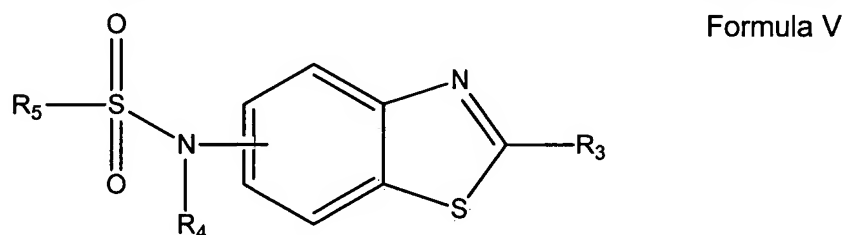
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9. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 of Formula IV



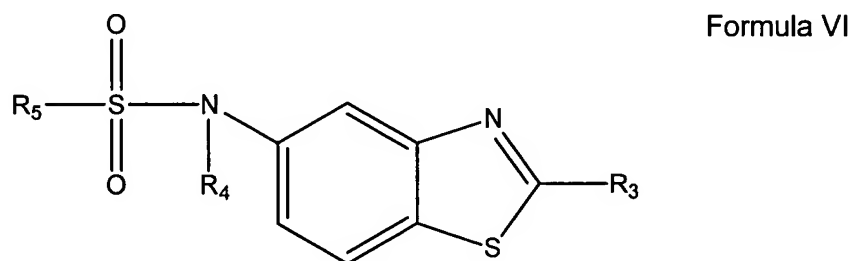
or a salt thereof.

10. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 of Formula V



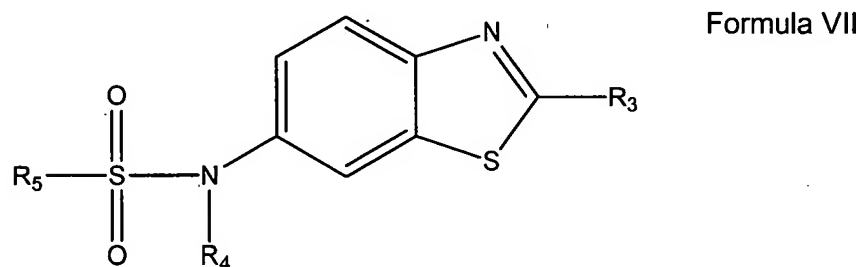
or a salt thereof.

11. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 of Formula VI



or a salt thereof.

12. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 of Formula VII



or a salt thereof.

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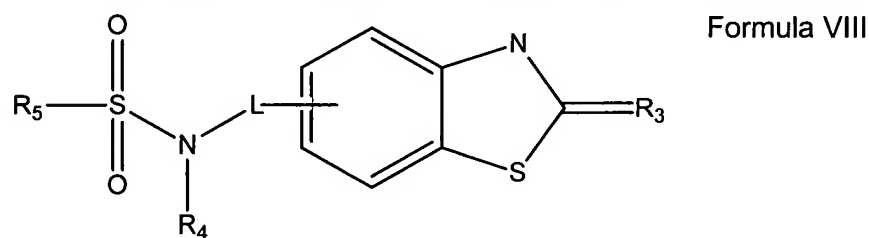
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13. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R_3$  is selected from H, hydrocarbyl, -S-hydrocarbyl, -S-H, halogen and  $N(R_9)(R_{10})$ , wherein each of  $R_9$  and  $R_{10}$  are independently selected from H and hydrocarbyl groups.

14. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R_3$  is selected from H and  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl groups, ~~such as  $C_4$ - $C_6$  alkyl group, and  $C_4$ - $C_3$  alkyl group.~~

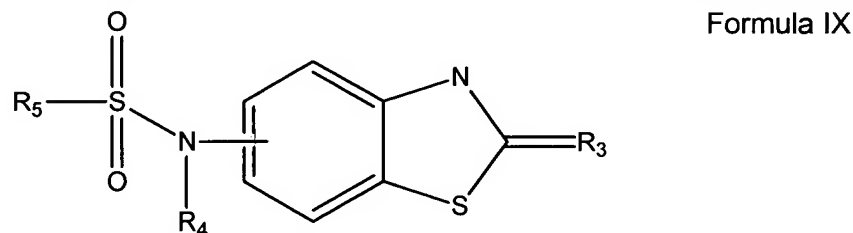
15. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R_3$  is  $-CH_3$ .

16. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 of Formula VIII



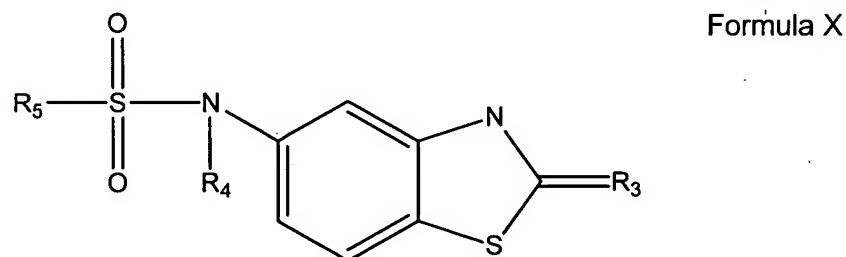
or a salt thereof.

17. (Original) A compound according to according to claim 1 of Formula IX



or a salt thereof.

18. (Original) A compound according to according to claim 1 of Formula X

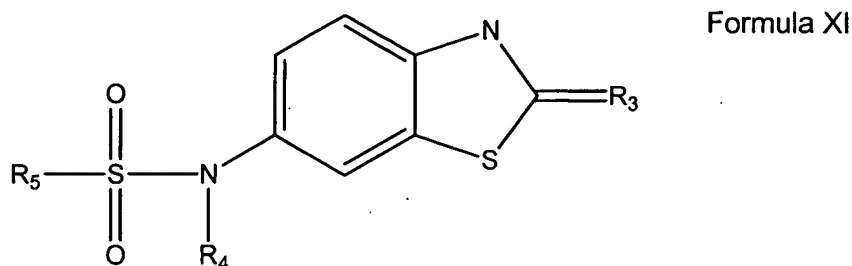


or a salt thereof.

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19. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 of Formula XI



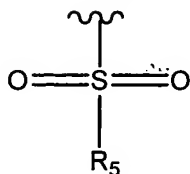
or a salt thereof.

20. (Original) A compound according to claim 16 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is selected from O, hydrocarbyl, and N(R<sub>9</sub>) wherein R<sub>9</sub> is selected from H and hydrocarbyl groups.
21. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is selected from O, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkenyl groups, NH, and N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl groups.
22. (Original) A compound according to claim 21 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl group.
23. (Original) A compound according to claim 21 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkenyl group.
24. (Original) A compound according to claim 21 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is a N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group.
25. (Original) A compound according to claim 21 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is a N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl group.
26. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>4</sub> is selected from H and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl groups.
27. (Original) A compound according to claim 26 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group.
28. (Original) A compound according to claim 26 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl group.
29. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>4</sub> is H.

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30. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R_4$  is a group of the formula.



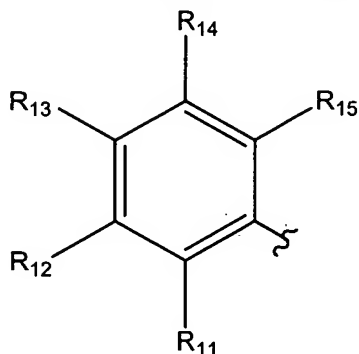
31. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R_5$  is a substituted ring.

32. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R_5$  is a carbocyclic ring.

33. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R_5$  is a six membered ring.

34. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R_5$  is an aryl ring.

35. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R_5$  is a group having the formula



wherein each of  $R_{11}$ ,  $R_{12}$ ,  $R_{13}$ ,  $R_{14}$  and  $R_{15}$  are independently selected from H, halogen, and hydrocarbonyl groups.

36. (Original) A compound according to claim 35 wherein each of  $R_{11}$ ,  $R_{12}$ ,  $R_{13}$ ,  $R_{14}$  and  $R_{15}$  are independently selected from H, halogen, alkyl, phenyl, O-alkyl, O-phenyl, nitrile, haloalkyl, carboxyalkyl,  $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2\text{alkyl}$ , and NH-acetyl groups.

37. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 optionally admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, excipient or adjuvant.

38. (Original) A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with  $11\beta$ -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to an

individual in need thereof.

39. (Original) The method according to claim 38 wherein the condition or disease is selected from metabolic disorders; cardiovascular disorders; glaucoma; inflammatory disorders; immune disorders; bone disorders; cancer; intra-uterine growth retardation; apparent mineralocorticoid excess syndrome (AME); polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS); hirsutism; acne; oligo- or amenorrhea; adrenal cortical adenoma and carcinoma; Cushing's syndrome; pituitary tumours; invasive carcinomas; breast cancer; and endometrial cancer.

40. (Original) The method according to claim 39 wherein the condition or disease is diabetes or obesity.

41. (Original) The method according to claim 39 wherein the condition or disease is hypertension.

42. (Original) The method according to claim 39 wherein the condition or disease is arthritis or asthma.

43. (Original) The method according to claim 39 wherein the condition or disease is osteoporosis.

44. (Original) The method according to claim 38 wherein the 11 $\beta$ -HSD is 11 $\beta$ -HSD Type 1.

45. (Original) The method according to claim 38 wherein the 11 $\beta$ -HSD is 11 $\beta$ -HSD Type 2.

46. (Original) A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with adverse 11 $\beta$ -HSD levels, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to an individual in need thereof.

47. (Original) A method of modulating 11 $\beta$ -HSD activity, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

48. (Original) A method of inhibiting 11 $\beta$ -HSD activity, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

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49. (Original) A method comprising (a) performing a 11 $\beta$ -HSD assay with at least one candidate compound according to claim 1; (b) determining whether at least one of said candidate compounds is capable of modulating 11 $\beta$ -HSD activity; and (c) selecting at least one of said candidate compounds that is capable of modulating 11 $\beta$ -HSD activity.

50. (Original) A compound identified by the method according to claim 49.

51. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 50 optionally admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, excipient or adjuvant.

52. (Original) A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with 11 $\beta$ -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 50 to an individual in need thereof.

53. (Original) The method according to claim 52 wherein the condition or disease is selected from metabolic disorders; cardiovascular disorders; glaucoma; inflammatory disorders; immune disorders; bone disorders; cancer; intra-uterine growth retardation; apparent mineralocorticoid excess syndrome (AME); polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS); hirsutism; acne; oligo- or amenorrhea; adrenal cortical adenoma and carcinoma; Cushing's syndrome; pituitary tumours; invasive carcinomas; breast cancer; and endometrial cancer.

54. (Original) A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with adverse levels of 11 $\beta$ -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 50 to an individual in need thereof.

55. (Original) The method according to claim 49 wherein the 11 $\beta$ -HSD is selected from 11 $\beta$ -HSD Type 1 and 11 $\beta$ -HSD Type 2.

56. (Original) A method comprising (a) performing a 11 $\beta$ -HSD assay with at least one candidate compound according to claim 1; (b) determining whether at least one of said candidate compounds is capable of inhibiting 11 $\beta$ -HSD activity; and (c) selecting at least one of said candidate compounds that is capable of inhibiting 11 $\beta$ -HSD activity.

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57. (Original) A compound identified by the method according to claim 56.
58. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 57 optionally admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, excipient or adjuvant.
59. (Original) A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with 11 $\beta$ -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 57 to an individual in need thereof.
60. (Original) The method according to claim 59 wherein the condition or disease is selected from metabolic disorders; cardiovascular disorders; glaucoma; inflammatory disorders; immune disorders; bone disorders; cancer; intra-uterine growth retardation; apparent mineralocorticoid excess syndrome (AME); polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS); hirsutism; acne; oligo- or amenorrhea; adrenal cortical adenoma and carcinoma; Cushing's syndrome; pituitary tumours; invasive carcinomas; breast cancer; and endometrial cancer.
61. (Original) A method of preventing or treating a condition or disease associated with adverse levels of 11 $\beta$ -HSD, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 57 to an individual in need thereof.
62. (Original) The method according to claim 56 wherein the 11 $\beta$ -HSD is selected from 11 $\beta$ -HSD Type 1 and 11 $\beta$ -HSD Type 2.
63. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group.
64. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>3</sub> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl group.

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